

In response to the Office Action dated August 8, 2003, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on November 10, 2003, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 20-0782/AMAT/3083.P6/AOP, \$516.00 for excess claim fees, and any additional amount for other fees, including extension of time fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper. Remarks/Arguments begin on page 13 of this paper.

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED AUGUST 8, 2003

Dear Sir:

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

For: Methods for Continuous Embedded Process Monitoring and Optical Inspection of Substrates Using Specular Signature Analysis

Filed: October 6, 2000

Confirmation No.: 2780

Serial No.: 09/684,856

Application of:
Hunter et al.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT
Atty. Dkt. No. AMAT/3063.P6/PDC/PDC/OH

Group Art Unit: 2877
Examiner: Zandra V. Smith

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
 37 CFR 1.8
 I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on
 November 6, 2003 with the United States Postal Service as
 First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner
 for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date Nov. 6, 2003
 Signature Gov. Immunity